

**Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission
Meeting of the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)**

April 8, 2014 Meeting Minutes
UVLSRPC Offices- Lebanon, NH

Attendees:

Van Chesnut, Chair, Advance Transit
Mike Lavalla, Lebanon
Peter Kulbacki, Hanover
George McCusker, Springfield
Richard Lee, New London
Nate Miller, UVLSRPC

TAC Chairman Van Chesnut called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

Approval of Minutes:

Peter Kulbacki moved that the minutes of January 14, 2014 be approved as submitted. Richard Lee seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

2015-2024 Ten-Year Plan Update:

Nate Miller reported that the NH House of Representatives passed the draft 2015-2024 Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan in late March. While there were no significant changes to projects in the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Region, the House of Representatives did make a series of important changes to the plan, including expanding transportation-related bonding authority beyond the Interstate 93 expansion project to include the replacement of the Sarah Mildred Long Bridge in Portsmouth.

The House of Representatives has also stipulated how new road toll revenues, should SB 367 pass, be spent. For FY 2015, the House of Representatives has recommended that potential SB 367 revenues be expended as follows: 1) \$12 Million be expended for the district highway rehabilitation program; 2) \$13 Million be expended for the district highway resurfacing program; and 3) \$7 Million be expended for the State Aid Bridge Program.

Transportation Alternatives Program Update:

Nate Miller provided TAC members with a copy of a recent presentation delivered by NHDOT staff detailing initial recommendations for a Transportation Alternatives Program (formerly Transportation Enhancement Program) project solicitation. Highlights from the presentation include:

- Total TAP funding for FY 2013 and FY 2014 is \$7.5 Million statewide, with \$2.5 Million set aside for the Recreational Trails program and a sub-allocation of approximately \$600,00 to the Nashua region (due to having a population over 200,000).
- The proposed minimum TAP project amount is \$200,000 total, with the proposed maximum project amount being \$800,000 total. The funding ratio for the program remains 80% Federal/20% Local.
- Eligible activities will be focused on non-motorized transportation needs (e.g. pedestrian and bicyclist infrastructure). Thus, control of outdoor advertising, historic preservation of transportation facilities, vegetation management, environmental mitigation, wildlife conservation to reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality, archaeological projects relating to impacts from the transportation system, and some Scenic Byways projects would not be eligible activities.

- A Statewide Advisory Committee is being formed to develop project evaluation criteria and oversee the project prioritization process at the state level. One rural Regional Planning Commission and one urban Regional Planning Commission will be represented on the Committee.
- Regional Planning Commissions will be tasked with helping applicants develop applications and ranking projects within their regions.

The NHDOT's goal is to develop program guidelines and criteria during Spring of 2014, have the application period in Summer of 2014, and make award announcements by the end of the calendar year.

UVLSRPC Regional Transportation Plan:

Nate Miller reviewed the draft Regional Scorecard, Highways and Bridges, Public Transportation, and Highway Safety components of the UVLSRPC Regional Transportation Plan. Nate Miller asked TAC members to review the sections and provide comments to staff before the next TAC meeting.

Project Updates:

- Nate Miller reported that the City of Lebanon has endorsed a plan for pedestrian safety improvements at the intersection of NH Route 10/Gould Road/Oak Ridge Road. Nate Miller reviewed the plan with TAC members, noting that construction is scheduled for the Spring of 2015.
- Nate Miller reported that the project to replace the U.S. Route 4 Bridge over the Mascoma River in Lebanon (near the intersection of U.S. Route 4/NH Route 4A) will advertise imminently.
- Nate Miller reported that Reconstruction of NH Route 12 in Charlestown will be entering the ROW acquisition phase, and construction is still scheduled to begin in late 2015/early 2016.

Updates from TAC Members:

- Peter Kulbacki reported that the Public Hearings to review the design of the Hanover Mobility Hub have been held, and construction will start in June.
- Richard Lee reported that, due to delays in the engineering process, the Elkins Village TE construction has been pushed back from 2014 to 2015.
- Mike Lavalla reported that the City of Lebanon is still seeking an Assistant Director of Public Works.

Adjournment:

Peter Kulbacki moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 PM. Richard Lee seconded and the motion passed unanimously.